

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An editing system having a computer and a timing notice apparatus connected to the computer over a universal serial bus (USB) cable, wherein:

the computer comprises:

command transmission means for transmitting an acquisition command, which requires to acquire a timing notice signal for predetermined timing notice corresponding to a frame frequency of image data to be edited, to the timing notice apparatus over the USB cable; and

notice signal reception means for, as a result of the transmission of the acquisition command, receiving the timing notice signal transmitted from the timing notice apparatus over the USB cable under the predetermined timing, and

the timing notice apparatus comprises:

command reception means for receiving the acquisition command transmitted from the computer over the USB cable; and

notice signal transmission means for, when the acquisition command is received by the command reception means, transmitting the timing notice signal to the computer over the USB cable under the predetermined timing.

2. The editing system as set forth in claim 1, wherein

for each requirement to acquire the timing notice signal, the command transmission means of the computer transmits the acquisition command to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable, and

when the acquisition command is transmitted by the command transmission means to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable, the notice signal reception means of the computer waits to receive the timing notice signal.

3. The editing system as set forth in claim 1, wherein

the timing notice apparatus comprises synchronization information extraction means for, from a reference signal provided from outside and in which synchronization information is sequentially stored under the predetermined timing, sequentially extracting the synchronization information under the predetermined timing and concurrently sending thus extracted synchronization information to the notice signal transmission means as the timing notice signal for the predetermined timing notice, and

when the acquisition command is received by the command reception means, the notice signal transmission means of the timing notice apparatus transmits the timing notice signal, which is input under the predetermined timing that comes foremost after the reception of the acquisition command, to the computer over the USB cable at the~

same time when the timing notice signal is input.

4. The editing system as set forth in claim 1, wherein

the timing notice apparatus comprises notice signal generation means for generating the timing notice signal for the predetermined timing notice under the predetermined timing corresponding to the frame frequency of the image data to be edited, and concurrently sends thus generated timing notice signal to the notice signal transmission means, and

when the acquisition command is received by the command reception means, the notice signal transmission means of the timing notice apparatus transmits the timing notice signal, which is input under the predetermined timing that comes foremost after the reception of the acquisition command, to the computer over the USB cable at the same time when the timing notice signal is input.

5. A computer that is connected to a timing notice apparatus over a USB cable, comprising:

command transmission means for, for each requirement to acquire a timing notice signal for predetermined timing notice corresponding to a frame frequency of image data to be edited, transmitting an acquisition command requiring to acquire the timing notice signal to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable; and

notice signal reception means for, when the acquisition command is transmitted by the command transmission means to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable, waiting to receive the timing notice signal to receive the timing notice signal transmitted from the timing notice apparatus over the USB cable under the predetermined timing.

6. A timing notice apparatus that is connected to a computer over a USB cable, comprising:

synchronization information extraction means for, from a reference signal provided from outside and in which synchronization signal is sequentially stored under predetermined timing corresponding to a frame frequency of image data to be edited, sequentially extracting the synchronization information under the predetermined timing and concurrently sending thus extracted synchronization information as the timing notice signal for the predetermined timing notice;

command reception means for, for each requirement to acquire the timing notice signal, receiving an acquisition command transmitted from the computer one time over the USB cable; and

notice signal transmission means for, when the acquisition command is received by the command reception means, transmitting the timing notice signal, which is input under the predetermined timing

that comes foremost after the reception of the acquisition command from the synchronization information extraction means, to the computer over the USB cable at the same time when the timing notice signal is input.

7. A method for acquiring timing that acquires predetermined timing corresponding to a frame frequency of image data to be edited from a timing notice apparatus over a USB cable, comprising:

a command transmission step of, for each requirement to acquire a timing notice signal indicative of the predetermined timing, transmitting an acquisition command requiring to acquire the timing notice signal to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable; and

a notice signal reception step of, when the acquisition command is transmitted to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable in the command transmission step, waiting to receive the timing notice signal to receive the timing notice signal transmitted from the timing notice apparatus over the USB cable under the predetermined timing.

8. A program for acquiring timing that makes a computer perform the steps comprising:

a command transmission step of, for each requirement to acquire

a timing notice signal for predetermined timing notice corresponding to a frame frequency of image data to be edited, transmitting an acquisition command requiring to acquire the timing notice signal to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable; and

a notice signal reception step of, when the acquisition command is transmitted to the timing notice apparatus one time over the USB cable in the command transmission step, waiting to receive the timing notice signal to receive the timing notice signal transmitted from the timing notice apparatus over the USB cable under the predetermined timing.